Approved For Release 2002/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00404R000300070001-5

[redacted] 25X1A

Copy 4 of 8

21 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Approval for IDEALIST Mission No. 3073

1. Based upon an extremely favorable weather outlook at the time of mission 3072 scheduled to launch 20 March Washington time, and after conversations with [redacted] 25X1A, I called the DD/R to inform him unless he had objections to the contrary, we would plan to alert for mission 3073 following directly on the heels of 3072 without further recourse to the Special Group from whom approval had earlier been received for two North Vietnam missions. As a matter of practice, it is planned, therefore, that the alert briefing for 3073 will be at the same time as the go-no-go briefing for 3072 at 1330 hours local, 20 March.

2. The DD/R said that he was in agreement with this proposal, but before we acted on it we should check with [redacted] 25X1A in the Special Group. I did so at 1145 hours 20 March, and [redacted] 25X1A concurred in our proposal at that time, stating that it would not require review by the Special Group. The reason for our interest in combining these two missions so closely deals with two facts.

a. There are more current requirements than can be satisfied in a single mission.

b. The weather to which I have previously alluded gives us on the basis of 3072 mission plan forecast a wide area of Category Two weather induced by a strong northwesterly flow spreading down through the Hanoi Basin nearly all the way to Tourane and eastward over virtually three-fourths of Hainan Island. [redacted] 25X1 anticipates that the persistence of this phenomenon will just about accommodate 3073, and he further stated that it was a rare forecast not likely to be repeated in the near future and certainly without any frequency.

Handle Via [redacted] Control System 25X1A

Approved For Release 2002/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00404R000300070001-5

Approved For Release 2002/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00404R000300070001-5

2. In consideration of all the above, I telephoned [redacted] at 25X1A
1155 hours and advised him to proceed with the plan for Mission No. 3073.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Acting Chief, DPD

cc: DD/R

Distribution:
1 - ASST CH/DPD
2 - DD/R
3 - AC/DPD
4 - DPD/INTEL
5 - DPD/SPE
6 - DPD/SO
7 - DPD/COVER
8 - DPD/RI

DPD:JACunningham, Jr./mg

Approved For Release 2002/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00404R000300070001-5